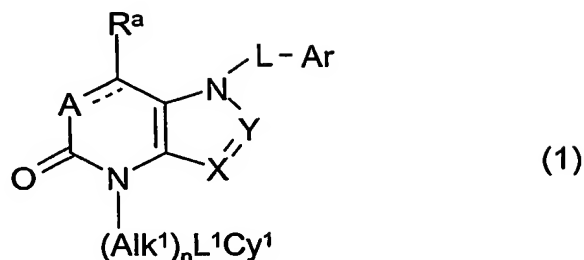


Claims:

1. A compound of formula (1):



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wherein:

the dashed line joining A and C(R^a) is present and represents a bond and A is a
-N= atom or a -C(R^b)= group, or the dashed line is absent and A is a -C(R^b)(R^c)- or
10 -N(R^d)- group;

R^a, R^b and R^c is each independently a hydrogen or halogen atom or an optionally
substituted alkyl, -CN, -CO₂R¹ (where R¹ is a hydrogen atom or an optionally substituted
alkyl group) or -CONR¹R² group (where R² is a hydrogen atom or an optionally
substituted alkyl group);

15 R^d is a hydrogen atom or an alkyl group;

X and Y is each a nitrogen atom or a -C(R^e)= or -C(Alk²R^e)= group [where Alk² is
an optionally substituted alkylene, alkenylene or alkynylene chain and R^e is a hydrogen or
halogen atom or a -CN, -OR¹, -CO₂R¹, -C(X^a)R¹ (where X^a is an oxygen or sulphur atom),
-Cy² (where Cy² is an optionally substituted, saturated or unsaturated non-aromatic
20 carbocyclic ring optionally containing one or more -O-, -S-, -NH- or -C(X^a)- atoms or
groups), -NR^{1a}R^{2a} (where R^{1a} and R^{2a}, which may be the same or different, is each a
hydrogen atom or an optionally substituted alkyl or Cy² group, or together with the nitrogen
atom to which they are attached form an optionally substituted, saturated or unsaturated
cyclicamino ring optionally containing one or more -O- or -S- atoms or -NH- or -C(X^a)-
25 groups), -C(X^a)NR^{1a}R^{2a}, -S(O)₂NR^{1a}R^{2a}, -N(R^{3a})C(X^a)R¹ (where R^{3a} is a hydrogen atom or
an optionally substituted alkyl group), -N(R^{3a})C(X^a)NR^{1a}R^{2a}, -N(R^{3a})S(O)₂R¹, -N[S(O)₂R¹]₂,
-N(R^{3a})S(O)₂NR^{1a}R^{2a}, -N(R^{3a})C(O)OR¹, -N(R^{3a})C(NR¹)NR^{1a}R^{2a}, -C(R¹)NOR²,
-C(NR¹)NR^{1a}R^{2a}, -C(X^a)NR^{1a}OR^{2a} or -C(O)N(R^{3a})NR^{1a}R^{2a} group];

L is a -C(O)-, -C(S)- or -C(R^{1f})(R^{1g})- group (where R^{1f} and R^{1g}, which may be the same or different, is each a hydrogen atom or a straight or branched C₁₋₃alkyl group optionally substituted by one, two or three fluorine atoms, or R^{1f} and R^{1g} together with the carbon atom to which they are attached form a cyclopropyl group), or a -CH₂CH₂- group;

5 n is zero or the integer 1;

Alk¹ is an optionally substituted aliphatic or heteroaliphatic chain;

L¹ is a covalent bond or a linker atom or group;

Cy¹ is an optionally substituted cycloaliphatic, polycycloaliphatic, heterocycloaliphatic, polyheterocycloaliphatic, aromatic or heteroaromatic group, or is
10 additionally a hydrogen atom when n is the integer 1 and/or L¹ is a linker atom or group;
and

Ar is an optionally substituted aromatic or heteroaromatic group;

provided that the compound of formula (1) is other than 3,7-dibenzyl-3,7-dihydro-2H-purinone;

15 and the salts, solvates, hydrates and N-oxides thereof.

2. A compound as claimed in claim 1 wherein the dashed line joining A and C(R^a) is present and represents a bond and A is a -C(R^b)- group, in which R^a and R^b are as defined in claim 1.

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3. A compound as claimed in claim 2 wherein R^a and R^b are both hydrogen.

4. A compound as claimed in any one of the preceding claims wherein X is a -CH= group.

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5. A compound as claimed in any one of the preceding claims wherein Y is a -C(R^e)= group, in which R^e is hydrogen, -CN, -COR¹, -CO₂R¹, -CONR^{1a}R^{2a}, -S(O)₂NR^{1a}R^{2a}, -CONR^{1a}OR^{2a} or -C(O)N(R^{3a})NR^{1a}R^{2a}, and R¹, R^{1a}, R^{2a} and R^{3a} are as defined in claim 1.

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6. A compound as claimed in any one of the preceding claims wherein Cy¹ is phenyl, methylphenyl, methoxyphenyl, thienyl or indolyl.

7. A compound as claimed in any one of the preceding claims wherein Ar represents phenyl, fluorophenyl, difluorophenyl, chlorophenyl, dichlorophenyl, (chloro)(fluoro)phenyl, cyanophenyl, methylphenyl, (fluoro)(methyl)phenyl, methoxyphenyl, nitrophenyl, pyridinyl, chlorothienyl or benzothienyl.

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8. A compound as claimed in claim 1 as herein specifically disclosed in any one of the Examples.

9. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound of formula (1) as defined in claim 1, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, solvate, hydrate or *N*-oxide thereof, in association with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

10. The use of a compound of formula (1) as defined in claim 1, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, solvate, hydrate or *N*-oxide thereof, for the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment and/or prevention of a disorder for which an inhibitor of p38 kinase is indicated.

11. A method for the treatment and/or prevention of a disorder for which an inhibitor of p38 kinase is indicated, which comprises administering to a patient in need of such treatment a compound of formula (1) as defined in claim 1, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, solvate, hydrate or *N*-oxide thereof.

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